

STATE OF CONNECTICUT PROCUREMENT NOTICE

Request for Proposals (RFP) For Inmate Medical Services-ECG Services

RFP Name: 2023DOC-IMSECG-RFPSH

Issued By:
Department of Correction
November 15, 2022

The Request For Proposal is available in electronic format on the State Contracting Portal by filtering by Organization for Department of Correction at: <https://portal.ct.gov/DAS/CTSource/BidBoard> or from the Department's Official Contact:

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The RFP is also available on the Department's website at <https://portal.ct.gov/DOC/Common-Elements/Common-Elements/RFP>

RESPONSES MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN

February 15, 2023

3:00 pm EST

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*Below is an outline of this Request for Proposal. The outline presents the standard structure of all RFPs for POS: meaning, the same sections and subsections appear in all RFPs for POS. The subsections of **Section V** are standard and their contents are the same for all RFPs for POS. The subsections of **Sections I, II, III, and IV** are standard, but their contents vary by RFP, depending on the Department's procurement requirements.*

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I. GENERAL INFORMATION

This section of the RFP provides general information about the Department's procurement and, most importantly, gives instructions to proposers and prospective proposers about how to comply with the RFP process and how to submit an acceptable proposal for review. Failure to comply with the RFP process or instructions may deem a proposal non-responsive and subject to rejection without further consideration. The subsections of Section I are standard, but their contents vary by RFP, depending on the Department's procurement requirements.

■ A. INTRODUCTION

- 1. RFP Name or Number.** 2023DOC-IMSECG-RFPSH
- 2. Executive Summary.** The Department provides access to health services to all inmates through the use of contracted providers and DOC staff that community standards. Diagnostic services such as Electroencephalography (EEG) and Electrocardiography (EKG) shall be available to inmates for the purpose of providing primary, secondary and tertiary care, as well as part of the emergency care process.
- 3. RFP Purpose.** The purpose of the RFP is to solicit proposals to secure a contract to provide electrocardiogram (ECG or EKG) services that records the electrical signal from the heart to gather clinical diagnostic information to detect and or monitor various heart conditions. As well as professional cardiology assessment and cardiac monitoring equipment to transmit heart rhythms and waves.
- 4. Commodity Codes.** The services that the Department wishes to procure through this RFP are as follows:
 - 85000000 Healthcare Services
 - 85100000 Comprehensive Healthcare Services
 - 85111604 Heart disease prevention and control services
 - 85121600 Medical doctor specialist services
 - 85121603 Cardiology services

■ B. INSTRUCTIONS

- 1. Official Contact.** The Department has designated the individual below as the Official Contact for purposes of this RFP. The Official Contact is the **only authorized contact** for this procurement and, as such, handles all related communications on behalf of the Department. Proposers, prospective proposers, and other interested parties are advised that any communication with any other Department employee(s) (including appointed officials) or personnel under contract to the Department about this RFP is strictly prohibited. Proposers or prospective proposers who violate this instruction may risk disqualification from further consideration.

Name: Salina Hargrove
Address: 24 Wolcott Hill Road Wethersfield, CT 06109
Phone: 860-692-6837
E-Mail: DOC.RFP@ct.gov

Please ensure that e-mail screening software (if used) recognizes and accepts e-mails from the Official Contact.

2. Registering with State Contracting Portal. Respondents must register with the State of CT contracting portal at <https://portal.ct.gov/DAS/CTSource/Registration> if not already registered in order to respond to this RFP via the CT Source Bid Board which is a requirement of this RFP.

3. RFP Information. The RFP, amendments to the RFP, and other information associated with this procurement are available in electronic format from the Official Contact or from the Internet at the following locations:

- Department's RFP Web Page: <https://portal.ct.gov/DOC/Common-Elements/Common-Elements/RFP>
- State Contracting Portal (go to CTsource bid board, filter by "Department of Correction"
<https://portal.ct.gov/DAS/CTSource/BidBoard>

It is strongly recommended that any proposer or prospective proposer interested in this procurement check the Bid Board for any solicitation changes. Interested proposers may receive additional e-mails from CTsource announcing addendums that are posted on the portal. This service is provided as a courtesy to assist in monitoring activities associated with State procurements, including this RFP.

4. Procurement Schedule. See below. Dates after the due date for proposals ("Proposals Due") are non-binding target dates only (*). The Department may amend the schedule as needed. Any change to non-target dates will be made by means of an amendment to this RFP and will be posted on the State Contracting Portal and, if available, the Department's RFP Web Page.

- RFP Released: November 15, 2022 5:00 pm EST
- RFP Conference: Not Applicable
- Letter of Intent Due: November 30, 2022 3pm EST
- Deadline for Questions: December 19, 2022 3pm EST
- Answers Released: January 6, 2023 5pm EST
- Proposals Due: February 15, 2023 3pm EST
- (*) Proposer Selection: TBD
- (*) Start of Contract Negotiations: TBD
- (*) Start of Contract: July 1, 2023

5. Contract Awards. The award of any contract pursuant to this RFP is dependent upon the availability of funding to the Department. The Department anticipates the following:

- Total Funding Available: To be determined
- Number of Awards: One contract
- Contract Cost: \$575,000.00 total Services
TBD Equipment cost
- Contract Term: 3 year contract
- Funding Source: State funds

6. Eligibility to Submit a Proposal. CTDOC is seeking proposals from cardiac professional healthcare vendors that can offer Cardiology assessment and cardiac monitoring equipment services.

7. Minimum Qualifications of Proposers. To qualify for a contract award, a proposer must be in the business of providing ECG/EKG monitoring equipment and employ cardiac professionals that can perform assessment and evaluation of cardiac monitoring reads. The minimum qualifications are as follows:

- Cardiologist
- Cardiac Technicians

8. Letter of Intent. A Letter of Intent (LOI) is required by this RFP. The LOI is non-binding and does not obligate the sender to submit a proposal. The LOI must be submitted to the Official Contact by e-mail by the deadline established in the Procurement Schedule. The LOI must clearly identify the sender, including name, postal address, telephone number, and e-mail address. It is the sender's responsibility to confirm the Department's receipt of the LOI. Failure to submit the required LOI in accordance with the requirements set forth herein shall result in disqualification from further consideration. Respondents must use the LOI form located in **Appendix D** and submit via email to the address listed under the Official Contact.

9. Inquiry Procedures. All questions regarding this RFP or the Department's procurement process must be directed, in writing, to the Official Contact before the deadline specified in the Procurement Schedule. The early submission of questions is encouraged. Questions will not be accepted or answered verbally – neither in person nor over the telephone. All questions received before the deadline(s) will be answered. However, the Department will not answer questions when the source is unknown (i.e., nuisance or anonymous questions). Questions deemed unrelated to the RFP or the procurement process will not be answered. At its discretion, the Department may or may not respond to questions received after the deadline. If this RFP requires a Letter of Intent, the Department reserves the right to answer questions only from those who have submitted such a letter. The Department may combine similar questions and give only one answer. All questions and answers will be compiled into a written amendment to this RFP. If any answer to any question constitutes a material change to the RFP, the question and answer will be placed at the beginning of the amendment and duly noted as such.

The agency will release the answers to questions on the date(s) established in the Procurement Schedule. The Department will publish any and all amendments to this RFP on the State Contracting Portal and, if available, on the Department's RFP Web Page. At its discretion, the Department may distribute any amendments to this RFP to prospective proposers who submitted a Letter of Intent.

10. RFP Conference/Questions. An RFP conference **will not** be held to answer questions from prospective proposers.

All RFP questions must be submitted in a written format through the CT Source Solicitation Board at <https://portal.ct.gov/DAS/CTSource/BidBoard> to the solicitation by the due date listed in the RFP Procurement Schedule on page 4 of this document.

Answers to questions will be provided in written format as an Addendum to this RFP, which will be uploaded to the CT Source Solicitation Board under the solicitation Addendum documents section labeled **Addendum #: Answers to RFP Questions.**

This Addendum will serve as the Department's official response to questions submitted by **Respondents that submitted a Letter of Intent (LOI)** and written

questions by the due dates listed in the RFP Procurement Schedule on page 4 of this document.

If any answer to any question constitutes a material change to the RFP, the question and answer will be placed at the beginning of the amendment and duly noted as such. The agency will release the amendment on the date established in the Procurement Schedule. The Department will publish any and all amendments to this RFP on the State Solicitation Board and on the Department's RFP Web Page at <https://portal.ct.gov/DOC/Common-Elements/Common-Elements/RFP> .

11. Proposal Due Date and Time. The Official Contact is the **only authorized recipient** of proposals submitted in response to this RFP. Proposals must be received by the Official Contact on or before the due date and time:

Proposals received after the due date and time will be ineligible and will not be evaluated. The Department will send an official letter alerting late respondents of ineligibility.

An acceptable submission must include the following:

- One (1) conforming electronic copy of the original proposal.

The proposal must be complete, properly formatted and outlined, and ready for evaluation by the Screening Committee.

Responses must include the name, mailing address, telephone number, and email address of the respondent.

Responses must be provided in searchable PDF form and uploaded to the CT Source Solicitations Board at, <https://portal.ct.gov/DAS/CTSource/BidBoard>. The response document must be uploaded to the solicitation.

12. Multiple Proposals. The submission of multiple proposals **is** an option for this procurement. Respondents can submit separate proposals for each service which must be identified on the cover page. One proposal may be submitted for both services, which all required information of the components of the RFP must be provided for each service.

II. PURPOSE OF RFP AND SCOPE OF SERVICES

Reserved for Department use. In this section, the Department provides proposers with background information about the Department and program. More specific information is provided about the service that the Department seeks to procure. This information is designed to promote a better understanding of the needs of the Department and its clients and, thus, assist proposers in preparing better proposals in response to this RFP. The structure of Section II is standard, but the content of the subsections will vary by RFP, depending on the Department's procurement requirements.

■ A. DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW

CTDOC is a recognized leader in the provision of institutional and community correction services. It is one of only six state correctional agencies in the country with a combined system of pre-trial jails for accused inmates and prisons for sentenced inmates. Thus, Connecticut has an integrated jail and prison system, with approximately 28 percent accused and 72 percent sentenced inmates detained in the facilities. CTDOC strives to provide healthcare services in accordance with the [American Correctional Association \(ACA\)](#) and the [National Commission on Correctional Healthcare \(NCCHC\)](#) standards, as well as prevailing professional practices and community standards of care. The department also follows the guidelines established by the U.S. Preventative Services Taskforce (<https://www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/>).

The Department incarcerates approximately 8,990 offender inmates throughout the State of Connecticut. CTDOC is responsible for incarceration of youth, male, and female sentenced and un-sentenced individuals, as well as ensuring appropriate community supervision of 4,958 offender inmates residing in the community prior to completion of their criminal sentences.

[Note:] Respondent(s) will not be responsible for the provision of healthcare to the individuals supervised in the community.

The CT DOC is one of only six state correctional agencies in the country with a combined system of pretrial jails for accused offenders and prisons for sentenced offenders. The Department houses its offenders throughout fourteen (14) facilities and/or campuses and is responsible for incarceration of youth (in the adult court system), male, and female sentenced and un-sentenced individuals. Approximately 33 percent are accused, and 67 percent are sentenced.

Inmates are classified in level 2 (minimum) through level 5 (maximum) security statuses. Most facilities house inmates in several levels, while the newer celled facilities house predominantly level 4 and 5 offender inmates. The number of persons supervised by CTDOC at any given time fluctuates and the number of facilities operated by CTDOC is subject to change. Information about all CTDOC facilities can be found at <https://portal.ct.gov/DOC/Miscellaneous/Facilities>.

Additional information regarding DOC and its facilities can be found at <http://portal.ct.gov/DOC>.

CTDOC Administrative Directives can be found on the DOC website at: <https://portal.ct.gov/DOC/Common-Elements/Common-Elements/Directives-and-Policies-Links>.

All inmates must have access to healthcare services that meet the Department's standards of care and reasonable accommodations as specified in Chapter 8 of the Administrative Directives or modifications are made in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act to allow inmates with disabilities the same opportunities for access to care as non-disabled inmates. Information about CTDOC standards of care can be found at <https://portal.ct.gov/DOC/AD/ADChapter-8>.

CTDOC currently provides primary healthcare services by healthcare professionals who are appropriately licensed and/or credentialed in their appropriate field of practice by the State of Connecticut. CTDOC provides a full continuum of services including medical, dental and behavioral healthcare services at all levels of clinical acuity which is available for inmates beginning with the initial intake process and throughout their incarceration. Services for inmates range from preventive and primary care to hospital inpatient and outpatient including chronic and specialty care, i.e., podiatry, optometry, infectious disease, cardiology, obstetrics/gynecology, neurology, end of life/hospice/palliative care, medication-assisted treatment, etc. Medical personnel have access to translation services (language and services for the hearing or visually impaired) in order to ensure proper assessment and care. All medical and behavioral health services include access to 24 hour on-call coverage to address emergent/critical care issues. Healthcare providers perform services under the supervision of the Chief Medical Officer.

Offenders are classified according to their medical needs. CTDOC defines criteria for assigning medical levels:

- M1 - No medical problems that require nursing attention, other than problems that might arise in the future due to illness or injury
- M2 - Are not expected to require nursing care on any regular basis; have some sub-acute or chronic disease that requires occasional nursing attention, but not on an urgent basis
- M3 - Need predictable access to nursing care for 16 hours a day, 7 days a week (Any need for directly observed therapy at least once a day qualifies as M3)
- M4 - Need 24-hour access to nursing care, but most of the time do not actually access that care. There is a reasonable likelihood that from time to time they will need 24-hour actual nursing care (not just access to it)
- M5 - Need 24-hour nursing care, possibly for an extended time

■ B. PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The CT DOC health services unit has approximately 9500 offenders in its custody across thirteen facilities. The Health Services Unit provides onsite primary and emergency care to the offender population of approximately 9500. The Health Services Unit performs approximately 300 ECGs on a monthly basis, most of them as part of an emergency care process.

The CT DOC Health Services Unit seeks a professional vendor relationship with an entity that can provide prompt 24-hour access to board certified cardiologists to:

1. Receive ECGs for clinical determination 24/7/365.
2. Render an opinion or diagnosis based off the ECG within fifteen minutes of receipt.
3. Provide a detailed report of findings with the ECG chart tracing transmitted electronically to our EHR for internal physician sign-off.
4. Provide a telephone call to the sending facility within fifteen minutes with a brief verbal report.
5. Provide e-consults as appropriate and based off primary care provider request.

The CT DOC Health Services Unit expects recommendation for the proper equipment as well as the ability to work with Information Technology on items like interfaces and reporting.

■ C. SCOPE OF SERVICE REQUIREMENTS

1. Organizational Requirements

- A. Executive Summary: Proposal must include a high-level summary, not exceeding one (1) page of the Respondents experience with providing the requested services.
- B. Description of Organization: A description of the organization, date established, number of employees (full and part-time), business type (e.g. LLC, corporation, etc.), and ownership is required in the proposal.
- C. Service Experience: Responses must include a description of past or existing work performed providing similar services requested in this RFP, as well as the outcomes of work performed.
 - i. Proposal must include 2 letters of references and listed as **Attachment 1** in the submitted proposal.

2. Scope of Service Requirements,

- A. Cardiac Services – The proposal must include a description of the Respondent's ability to receive and interpret heart rhythm tracings for routine and diagnostic testing.
- B. Equipment – The proposal must indicate if the Respondent can provide equipment, including make and model numbers for the following:
 - i. Electrocardiogram (ECG or EKG)
 - ii. Resting 12-lead EKG
 - iii. Signal-averaged electrocardiogram
 - iv. Exercise EKG (stress test)
- C. Service Coverage – Statewide, all DOC facilities. The proposal must indicate the Respondent's ability to provide services to all facilities listed in the DOC facility list in **Appendix F** of this RFP.
- D. Operational Needs – DOC needs services to take place 24 hours, 7 days a week, all year. The proposal must describe the Respondents ability to provide services and it's process including staff that will be performing services during the times as follows:
 - i. Daytime read hours from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm for EKG interpretations, prescriber discussion, phone consultations and telehealth encounters.
 - ii. After hours from 4:00 pm to 8:00 am for emergency, STAT and acute reads nursing evaluations.
- E. Target Population for Service – The proposal must indicate if the Respondent can provide ECG read and interpretation services or the following medical conditions:
 - i. Coronary Heart Disease
 - ii. Cardiomyopathy
 - iii. Congestive Heart Failure
 - iv. Pre-operative assessments
 - v. Arrhythmia
 - vi. Aortic Stenosis

- F. Service Utilization – There are currently 300 ECG performed monthly. The proposal must include a description of current and or past customers with similar utilization volume and the Respondents ability to meet the volume needs.
- G. Read Times – DOC requires the following read times:
- i. Daytime reads between the hours of 8:00 am-4:00 pm within 24 hours via fax and or electronic health record system.
 - ii. After hours between 4:00pm -8:00a.m., STAT, Emergency reads within 15-20 minutes via direct phone call or electronic health record system.
 - iii. The proposal must include a description of Respondent's ability to provide the above stated read time responses including ability to provide cardiologist consultation.
- H. Backlog – There is an estimated 20 to 25 routine EKG interpretation backlog for chronic care disease management and pre-operative risk evaluations. Proposal must indicate how the Respondent will address the backlog.

3. Data Technology Requirement

- A. Computer Hardware / Software – At present DOC scan or fax an EKG tracing to the reading consultant. DOC anticipate the need to convert the current stand-alone paper-trace EKG machines to digital. The goal is to have the digital data captured in the DOC inmate EHR, in which digital data of heart waves and rhythms, which would be electronically shared for, reads and interpretation.
- i. The proposal must provide a description of its technological systems used to receive heart rhythm and waves data and send interpretation results electronically.
 - ii. The proposal must describe the Respondents ability to provide the following:
 - a) Compatible with GE Centricity to receive and send data.
 - b) Producing digital printouts of heart rhythms and waves
 - c) Electronic read interpretation
- B. Secure Fax / Internet Capability- The proposal must describe technological security features for sending/receiving health information electronically from outside emails, electronic fax or secure phone fax and view PDF documents. As well, as indicate if secure internet systems are HL7 HIPPA compliant.

4. Budget Requirements

- A. The Respondent must include a budget narrative detailing direct, indirect and fee for service read costs itemized in the budget forms.
- B. The Respondent must submit a three (3) year itemized budget using the budget form in **Appendix G** for the following:
- i. Direct Cost – Salary & Fringes
 - a) Licensed Cardiologist 16 hours per week at Department of Labor (DOL) average rate of \$175 per hour.
 - ii. Fee for Service Costs per read (minimum 300 reads per month). Below is the average cost from the 2022 CMS Physician Fee Schedule for non-facility ECG reporting CPT code 93010.
 - a) Direct Daytime Read Rates = 8AM-4PM 70 reads (\$8.48 per read)
 - b) After hour Reads = 4PM-8AM & Saturday and Sunday average 35 reads (double daytime read rate)
 - c) STAT reads = 20 reads (same as after hour read rate)

- iii. Indirect Costs (includes Administrative fees, insurance etc.)
- iv. Equipment costs
- v. Any other costs associated with provided direct services not listed

C. Subcontractor Cost Schedules if applicable using the budget forms in **Appendix H**.

D. Provide an equipment list with pricing for purchase and or leasing costs in **Appendix I**.

III. PROPOSAL SUBMISSION OVERVIEW

■ A. SUBMISSION FORMAT

1. **Required Outline.** All proposals must follow the required outline presented in Section IV – Proposal Outline. Proposals that fail to follow the required outline will be deemed non-responsive and not evaluated.
2. **Cover Sheet.** The Cover Sheet is Page 1 of the proposal. Proposers must complete and use the Cover Sheet form provided by the Department in the **Appendix E**.
3. **Table of Contents.** All proposals must include a Table of Contents that conforms with the required proposal outline.
4. **Executive Summary.** Proposals must include a high-level summary, not exceeding 1 page of the main proposal.
5. **Attachments.** Attachments other than the required Appendices or Forms identified in the RFP are not permitted and will not be evaluated. Further, the required Appendices or Forms must not be altered or used to extend, enhance, or replace any component required by this RFP. Failure to abide by these instructions will result in disqualification.
6. **Style Requirements. THIS IS AN ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION.**

Submitted proposals must conform to the following specifications:

- Paper Size: Standard Letter
 - Font Size: 12
 - Font Type: Times New Roman
 - Margins: One inch (1")
 - Line Spacing: Single Space
 - Page limit: No page limit
7. **Pagination.** The proposer's name must be displayed in the header of each page. All pages, including the required Appendices and Forms, must be numbered in the footer.
 9. **Declaration of Confidential Information.** Proposers are advised that all materials associated with this procurement are subject to the terms of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), the Privacy Act, and all rules, regulations and interpretations resulting from them. If a proposer deems that certain information required by this RFP is confidential, the proposer must label such information as CONFIDENTIAL prior to submission. In subsection **G. Conflict of Interest - Disclosure Statement**, as indicated in section **IV. REQUIRED PROPOSAL SUBMISSION OUTLINE** the of the proposal submission, the proposer must reference where the information labeled CONFIDENTIAL is located in the proposal. *EXAMPLE: Section G.1.a.* For each subsection so referenced, the proposer must provide a convincing explanation and rationale sufficient to justify an exemption of the information from release under the FOIA. The explanation and rationale must be stated in terms of (a) the prospective harm to the competitive position of the proposer that would result if the identified information were to be released and (b) the reasons why the information is legally exempt from release pursuant to C.G.S. § 1-210(b).

10. Conflict of Interest - Disclosure Statement. Proposers must include a disclosure statement concerning any current business relationships (within the last three (3) years) that pose a conflict of interest, as defined by C.G.S. § 1-85. A conflict of interest exists when a relationship exists between the proposer and a public official (including an elected official) or State employee that may interfere with fair competition or may be adverse to the interests of the State. The existence of a conflict of interest is not, in and of itself, evidence of wrongdoing. A conflict of interest may, however, become a legal matter if a proposer tries to influence, or succeeds in influencing, the outcome of an official decision for their personal or corporate benefit. The Department will determine whether any disclosed conflict of interest poses a substantial advantage to the proposer over the competition, decreases the overall competitiveness of this procurement, or is not in the best interests of the State. In the absence of any conflict of interest, a proposer must affirm such in the disclosure statement. *Example: "[name of proposer] has no current business relationship (within the last three (3) years) that poses a conflict of interest, as defined by C.G.S. § 1-85."*

■ B. EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS

- 1. Evaluation Process.** It is the intent of the Department to conduct a comprehensive, fair, and impartial evaluation of proposals received in response to this RFP. When evaluating proposals, negotiating with successful proposers, and awarding contracts, the Department will conform with its written procedures for POS and PSA procurements (pursuant to C.G.S. § 4-217) and the State's Code of Ethics (pursuant to C.G.S. §§ 1-84 and 1-85). Final funding allocation decisions will be determined during contract negotiation.
- 2. Review Committee.** The Department will designate a Review Committee to evaluate proposals submitted in response to this RFP. The Review Committee will be composed of individuals, Department staff or other designees as deemed appropriate. The contents of all submitted proposals, including any confidential information, will be shared with the Review Committee. Only proposals found to be responsive (that is, complying with all instructions and requirements described herein) will be reviewed, rated, and scored. Proposals that fail to comply with all instructions will be rejected without further consideration. The Review Committee shall evaluate all proposals that meet the Minimum Submission Requirements by score and rank ordered and make recommendations for awards. The Department of Correction Commissioner will make the final selection. Attempts by any proposer (or representative of any proposer) to contact or influence any member of the Review Committee may result in disqualification of the proposer.
- 3. Minimum Submission Requirements.** To be eligible for evaluation, proposals must (1) be received on or before the due date and time; (2) meet the Proposal Format requirements; (3) follow the required Proposal Outline; and (4) be complete. Proposals that fail to follow instructions or satisfy these minimum submission requirements will not be reviewed further. The Department will reject any proposal that deviates significantly from the requirements of this RFP.
- 4. Evaluation Criteria (and Weights).** Proposals meeting the Minimum Submission Requirements will be evaluated according to the established criteria. The criteria are the objective standards that the Review Committee will use to evaluate the technical merits of the proposals. Only the criteria listed below will be used to evaluate proposals. The weights are disclosed below:

Criteria	Possible Points
Organizational Profile	20
Service requirements	30
Budget requirements	20
Data/Technology requirements	20
Attachment	10
Total Possible Points	100

As part of its evaluation of the Staffing Plan, the Review Committee will consider the proposer's demonstrated commitment to affirmative action, as required by the Regulations of CT State Agencies § 46A-68j-30(10).

- 5. Proposer Selection.** Upon completing its evaluation of proposals, the Review Committee will submit the rankings of all proposals to the Department head. The final selection of a successful proposer is at the discretion of the Department head. Any proposer selected will be so notified and awarded an opportunity to negotiate a contract with the Department. Such negotiations may, but will not automatically, result in a contract. Pursuant to Governor M. Jodi Rell's Executive Order No. 3, any resulting contract will be posted on the State Contracting Portal. All unsuccessful proposers will be notified by e-mail or U.S. mail, at the Department's discretion, about the outcome of the evaluation and proposer selection process. The Department reserves the right to decline to award contracts for activities in which the Department head considers there are not adequate respondents.
- 6. Debriefing.** Within ten (10) days of receiving notification from the Department, unsuccessful proposers may contact the Official Contact and request information about the evaluation and proposer selection process. The e-mail sent date or the postmark date on the notification envelope will be considered "day one" of the ten (10) days. If unsuccessful proposers still have questions after receiving this information, they may contact the Official Contact and request a meeting with the Department to discuss the evaluation process and their proposals. If held, the debriefing meeting will not include any comparisons of unsuccessful proposals with other proposals. The Department will schedule and hold the debriefing meeting within fifteen (15) days of the request. The Department will not change, alter, or modify the outcome of the evaluation or selection process as a result of any debriefing meeting.
- 7. Appeal Process.** Proposers may appeal any aspect the Department's competitive procurement, including the evaluation and proposer selection process. Any such appeal must be submitted to the Department head. A proposer may file an appeal at any time after the proposal due date, but not later than thirty (30) days after an agency notifies unsuccessful proposers about the outcome of the evaluation and proposer selection process. The e-mail sent date or the postmark date on the notification envelope will be considered "day one" of the thirty (30) days. The filing of an appeal shall not be deemed sufficient reason for the Department to delay, suspend, cancel, or terminate the procurement process or execution of a contract. More detailed information about filing an appeal may be obtained from the Official Contact.
- 8. Contract Execution.** Any contract developed and executed as a result of this RFP is subject to the Department's contracting procedures, which may include approval by

the Office of the Attorney General. Fully executed and approved contracts will be posted on State Contracting Portal and the Department website.

IV. REQUIRED PROPOSAL SUBMISSION OUTLINE

*This section presents the **required** outline that must be followed when submitting a proposal in response to this RFP. Proposals must include a Table of Contents that exactly conforms with the required proposal outline (below). Proposals must include all the components listed below, in the order specified, using the prescribed lettering and numbering scheme. Incomplete proposals will not be evaluated. While the proposal outline is standard, the information requested from proposers will vary by RFP, depending of the Department's procurement requirements.*

A. Cover Sheet - Page 1 of proposal.

B. Table of Contents - Respondents must include a Table of Contents that lists sections and subsections with page numbers that follow the organization outline and sequence for this proposal.

C. Executive Summary - The page limitation for this section is one (1) page briefly describing how the Respondent meets the eligibility criteria outlined in the Proposal Overview and a brief overview of why the Respondent should be selected for the activities highlighted in the scope of services.

D. Main Proposal

1. **Organization Description and History:** Provide a general overview of your organization including its history and prior experiences providing the relevant key services required in this RFP.
2. **Scope of Service Requirements:** Provide responses on how services will be performed in the manner required as indicated in this RFP.
3. **Data/Technology:** The purpose of this section is to gather information about the proposer's information management and data reporting systems.
4. **Budget Requirement:** Proposal must have a budget narrative that provides information on the costs associated with providing services, including itemized budgets using budget forms provided in Appendix G,H,I.

E. Attachments: (Clearly referenced to summary and main proposal where applicable.) Attachments other than the required attachments identified are not permitted and will not be evaluated. Further, the required attachments must not be altered or used to extend, enhance, or replace any component required by this RFP. Failure to abide by these instructions may result in disqualification. The following attachments are required with proposal submission of this RFP:

1. Letters of References – Attachment 1

F. Declaration of Confidential Information

Proposers are advised that all materials associated with this procurement are subject to the terms of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), the Privacy Act, and all rules, regulations and interpretations resulting from them. If a proposer deems that certain information required by this RFP is confidential, the proposer must label such information as CONFIDENTIAL prior to submission. In subsection F. Declaration of Confidential Information of the proposal submission, the proposer must reference where the information labeled CONFIDENTIAL is located in the proposal.

EXAMPLE: Section G.1.a. For each subsection so referenced, the proposer must provide a convincing explanation and rationale sufficient to justify an exemption of the information

from release under the FOIA. The explanation and rationale must be stated in terms of (a) the prospective harm to the competitive position of the proposer that would result if the identified information were to be released and (b) the reasons why the information is legally exempt from release pursuant to C.G.S. § 1-210(b).

G. Conflict of Interest - Disclosure Statement

Proposers must include a disclosure statement concerning any current business relationships (within the last three (3) years) that pose a conflict of interest, as defined by C.G.S. § 1-85.

A conflict of interest exists when a relationship exists between the proposer and a public official (including an elected official) or State employee that may interfere with fair competition or may be adverse to the interests of the State. The existence of a conflict of interest is not, in and of itself, evidence of wrongdoing. A conflict of interest may, however, become a legal matter if a proposer tries to influence, or succeeds in influencing, the outcome of an official decision for their personal or corporate benefit. In the absence of any conflict of interest, a proposer must affirm such in the disclosure statement.

Example: “[name of proposer] has no current business relationship (within the last three (3) years) that poses a conflict of interest, as defined by C.G.S. § 1-85.”

H. Statement of Assurances

Place after Conflict of Interest-Disclosure Statement. Sign and return **Appendix B**

V. MANDATORY PROVISIONS

This section of the RFP provides information about the State's mandatory procurement and contracting requirements, including, the standard Purchase of Service contract, proposer assurances, the terms and conditions of this RFP, the rights reserved to the State, and compliance with statutes and regulations. The Department is solely responsible for rendering decisions in matters of interpretation of all mandatory provisions. Section V is standard for all RFPs for POS and the content does not vary.

■ A. POS STANDARD CONTRACT, PARTS I AND II

By submitting a proposal in response to this RFP, the proposer implicitly agrees to comply with the provisions of Parts I and II of the State's "standard contract" for POS:

Part I of the standard contract is maintained by the Department and will include the scope of services, contract performance, quality assurance, reports, terms of payment, budget, and other program-specific provisions of any resulting POS contract. A sample of Part I is available from the Department's Official Contact upon request.

Part II of the standard contract is maintained by OPM and includes the mandatory terms and conditions of the POS contract. Part II is available on OPM's website at: http://www.ct.gov/opm/fin/standard_contract

Note:

Included in Part II of the standard contract is the State Elections Enforcement Commission's notice (pursuant to C.G.S. § 9-612(g)(2)) advising executive branch State contractors and prospective State contractors of the ban on campaign contributions and solicitations. If a proposer is awarded an opportunity to negotiate a contract with the Department and the resulting contract has an anticipated value in a calendar year of \$50,000 or more, or a combination or series of such agreements or contracts has an anticipated value of \$100,000 or more, the proposer must inform the proposer's principals of the contents of the SEEC notice.

Part I of the standard contract may be amended by means of a written instrument signed by the Department, the selected proposer (contractor), and, if required, the Attorney General's Office. Part II of the standard contract may be amended only in consultation with, and with the approval of, the Office of Policy and Management and the Attorney General's Office.

■ B. ASSURANCES

By submitting a proposal in response to this RFP, a proposer implicitly gives the following assurances:

- 1. Collusion.** The proposer represents and warrants that the proposer did not participate in any part of the RFP development process and had no knowledge of the specific contents of the RFP prior to its issuance. The proposer further represents and warrants that no agent, representative, or employee of the State participated directly in the preparation of the proposer's proposal. The proposer also represents

and warrants that the submitted proposal is in all respects fair and is made without collusion or fraud.

- 2. State Officials and Employees.** The proposer certifies that no elected or appointed official or employee of the State has or will benefit financially or materially from any contract resulting from this RFP. The Department may terminate a resulting contract if it is determined that gratuities of any kind were either offered or received by any of the aforementioned officials or employees from the proposer, contractor, or its agents or employees.
- 3. Competitors.** The proposer assures that the submitted proposal is not made in connection with any competing organization or competitor submitting a separate proposal in response to this RFP. No attempt has been made, or will be made, by the proposer to induce any other organization or competitor to submit, or not submit, a proposal for the purpose of restricting competition. The proposer further assures that the proposed costs have been arrived at independently, without consultation, communication, or agreement with any other organization or competitor for the purpose of restricting competition. Nor has the proposer knowingly disclosed the proposed costs on a prior basis, either directly or indirectly, to any other organization or competitor.
- 4. Validity of Proposal.** The proposer certifies that the proposal represents a valid and binding offer to provide services in accordance with the terms and provisions described in this RFP and any amendments or attachments hereto. The proposal shall remain valid for a period of 180 days after the submission due date and may be extended beyond that time by mutual agreement. At its sole discretion, the Department may include the proposal, by reference or otherwise, into any contract with the successful proposer.
- 5. Press Releases.** The proposer agrees to obtain prior written consent and approval of the Department for press releases that relate in any manner to this RFP or any resultant contract.

■ C. TERMS AND CONDITIONS

By submitting a proposal in response to this RFP, a proposer implicitly agrees to comply with the following terms and conditions:

- 1. Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action.** The State is an Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action employer and does not discriminate in its hiring, employment, or business practices. The State is committed to complying with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) and does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admission to, access to, or operation of its programs, services, or activities.
- 2. Preparation Expenses.** Neither the State nor the Department shall assume any liability for expenses incurred by a proposer in preparing, submitting, or clarifying any proposal submitted in response to this RFP.
- 3. Exclusion of Taxes.** The Department is exempt from the payment of excise and sales taxes imposed by the federal government and the State. Proposers are liable for any other applicable taxes.

- 4. Proposed Costs.** No cost submissions that are contingent upon a State action will be accepted. All proposed costs must be fixed through the entire term of the contract.
- 5. Changes to Proposal.** No additions or changes to the original proposal will be allowed after submission. While changes are not permitted, the Department may request and authorize proposers to submit written clarification of their proposals, in a manner or format prescribed by the Department, and at the proposer's expense.
- 6. Supplemental Information.** Supplemental information will not be considered after the deadline submission of proposals, unless specifically requested by the Department. The Department may ask a proposer to give demonstrations, interviews, oral presentations or further explanations to clarify information contained in a proposal. Any such demonstration, interview, or oral presentation will be at a time selected and in a place provided by the Department. At its sole discretion, the Department may limit the number of proposers invited to make such a demonstration, interview, or oral presentation and may limit the number of attendees per proposer.
- 7. Presentation of Supporting Evidence.** If requested by the Department, a proposer must be prepared to present evidence of experience, ability, data reporting capabilities, financial standing, or other information necessary to satisfactorily meet the requirements set forth or implied in this RFP. The Department may make onsite visits to an operational facility or facilities of a proposer to evaluate further the proposer's capability to perform the duties required by this RFP. At its discretion, the Department may also check or contact any reference provided by the proposer.
- 8. RFP Is Not An Offer.** Neither this RFP nor any subsequent discussions shall give rise to any commitment on the part of the State or the Department or confer any rights on any proposer unless and until a contract is fully executed by the necessary parties. The contract document will represent the entire agreement between the proposer and the Department and will supersede all prior negotiations, representations or agreements, alleged or made, between the parties. The State shall assume no liability for costs incurred by the proposer or for payment of services under the terms of the contract until the successful proposer is notified that the contract has been accepted and approved by the Department and, if required, by the Attorney General's Office.

■ D. RIGHTS RESERVED TO THE STATE

By submitting a proposal in response to this RFP, a proposer implicitly accepts that the following rights are reserved to the State:

- 1. Timing Sequence.** The timing and sequence of events associated with this RFP shall ultimately be determined by the Department.
- 2. Amending or Canceling RFP.** The Department reserves the right to amend or cancel this RFP on any date and at any time, if the Department deems it to be necessary, appropriate, or otherwise in the best interests of the State.
- 3. No Acceptable Proposals.** In the event that no acceptable proposals are submitted in response to this RFP, the Department may reopen the procurement process, if it is determined to be in the best interests of the State.

- 4. Award and Rejection of Proposals.** The Department reserves the right to award in part, to reject any and all proposals in whole or in part, for misrepresentation or if the proposal limits or modifies any of the terms, conditions, or specifications of this RFP. The Department may waive minor technical defects, irregularities, or omissions, if in its judgment the best interests of the State will be served. The Department reserves the right to reject the proposal of any proposer who submits a proposal after the submission date and time.
- 5. Sole Property of the State.** All proposals submitted in response to this RFP are to be the sole property of the State. Any product, whether acceptable or unacceptable, developed under a contract awarded as a result of this RFP shall be the sole property of the State, unless stated otherwise in this RFP or subsequent contract. The right to publish, distribute, or disseminate any and all information or reports, or part thereof, shall accrue to the State without recourse.
- 6. Contract Negotiation.** The Department reserves the right to negotiate or contract for all or any portion of the services contained in this RFP. The Department further reserves the right to contract with one or more proposer for such services. After reviewing the scored criteria, the Department may seek Best and Final Offers (BFO) on cost from proposers. The Department may set parameters on any BFOs received.
- 7. Clerical Errors in Award.** The Department reserves the right to correct inaccurate awards resulting from its clerical errors. This may include, in extreme circumstances, revoking the awarding of a contract already made to a proposer and subsequently awarding the contract to another proposer. Such action on the part of the State shall not constitute a breach of contract on the part of the State since the contract with the initial proposer is deemed to be void *ab initio* and of no effect as if no contract ever existed between the State and the proposer.
- 8. Key Personnel.** When the Department is the sole funder of a purchased service, the Department reserves the right to approve any additions, deletions, or changes in key personnel, with the exception of key personnel who have terminated employment. The Department also reserves the right to approve replacements for key personnel who have terminated employment. The Department further reserves the right to require the removal and replacement of any of the proposer's key personnel who do not perform adequately, regardless of whether they were previously approved by the Department.

■ E. STATUTORY AND REGULATORY COMPLIANCE

By submitting a proposal in response to this RFP, the proposer implicitly agrees to comply with all applicable State and federal laws and regulations, including, but not limited to, the following:

- 1. Freedom of Information, C.G.S. § 1-210(b).** The Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) generally requires the disclosure of documents in the possession of the State upon request of any citizen, unless the content of the document falls within certain categories of exemption, as defined by C.G.S. § 1-210(b). Proposers are generally advised not to include in their proposals any confidential information. If the proposer indicates that certain documentation, as required by this RFP, is submitted in confidence, the State will endeavor to keep said information confidential to the extent permitted by law. The State has no obligation to initiate, prosecute, or defend any legal proceeding or to seek a protective order or other similar relief to prevent disclosure of any information pursuant to a FOIA request. The proposer has

the burden of establishing the availability of any FOIA exemption in any proceeding where it is an issue. While a proposer may claim an exemption to the State's FOIA, the final administrative authority to release or exempt any or all material so identified rests with the State. In no event shall the State or any of its employees have any liability for disclosure of documents or information in the possession of the State and which the State or its employees believe(s) to be required pursuant to the FOIA or other requirements of law.

- 2. Contract Compliance, C.G.S. § 4a-60 and Regulations of CT State Agencies § 46a-68j-21 thru 43, inclusive.** CT statute and regulations impose certain obligations on State agencies (as well as contractors and subcontractors doing business with the State) to insure that State agencies do not enter into contracts with organizations or businesses that discriminate against protected class persons.
- 3. Consulting Agreements, C.G.S. § 4a-81.** Proposals for State contracts with a value of \$50,000 or more in a calendar or fiscal year, excluding leases and licensing agreements of any value, shall include a consulting agreement affidavit attesting to whether any consulting agreement has been entered into in connection with the proposal. As used herein "consulting agreement" means any written or oral agreement to retain the services, for a fee, of a consultant for the purposes of (A) providing counsel to a contractor, vendor, consultant or other entity seeking to conduct, or conducting, business with the State, (B) contacting, whether in writing or orally, any executive, judicial, or administrative office of the State, including any department, institution, bureau, board, commission, authority, official or employee for the purpose of solicitation, dispute resolution, introduction, requests for information or (C) any other similar activity related to such contract. Consulting agreement does not include any agreements entered into with a consultant who is registered under the provisions of C.G.S. Chapter 10 as of the date such affidavit is submitted in accordance with the provisions of C.G.S. § 4a-81. The Consulting Agreement Affidavit (OPM Ethics Form 5) is available on OPM's website at http://www.ct.gov/opm/fin/ethics_forms
- 4. Gift and Campaign Contributions, C.G.S. §§ 4-250 and 4-252(c); Governor M. Jodi Rell's Executive Orders No. 1, Para. 8 and No. 7C, Para. 10; C.G.S. § 9-612(g)(2).** If a proposer is awarded an opportunity to negotiate a contract with an anticipated value of \$50,000 or more in a calendar or fiscal year, the proposer must fully disclose any gifts or lawful contributions made to campaigns of candidates for statewide public office or the General Assembly. Municipalities and CT State agencies are exempt from this requirement. The gift and campaign contributions certification (OPM Ethics Form 1) is available on OPM's website at http://www.ct.gov/opm/fin/ethics_forms
IMPORTANT NOTE: The successful proposer must complete and submit OPM Ethics Form 1 to the Department prior with the proposal.
- 5. Nondiscrimination Certification, C.G.S. §§ 4a-60(a)(1) and 4a-60a(a)(1).** If a proposer is awarded an opportunity to negotiate a contract, the proposer must provide the Department with *written representation* or *documentation* that certifies the proposer complies with the State's nondiscrimination agreements and warranties. A nondiscrimination certification is required for all State contracts – regardless of type, term, cost, or value. Municipalities and CT State agencies are exempt from this requirement. The nondiscrimination certification forms are available on OPM's website at http://www.ct.gov/opm/fin/nondiscrim_forms
IMPORTANT NOTE: The successful proposer must complete and submit the appropriate nondiscrimination certification form to the awarding Department prior to contract execution.

APPENDIX A**A. ABBREVIATIONS / ACRONYMS / DEFINITIONS**

BFO	Best and Final Offer
C.G.S.	Connecticut General Statutes
CHRO	Commission on Human Rights and Opportunity (CT)
CT	Connecticut
DAS	Department of Administrative Services (CT)
FOIA	Freedom of Information Act (CT)
IRS	Internal Revenue Service (US)
LOI	Letter of Intent
OAG	Office of the Attorney General
OPM	Office of Policy and Management (CT)
OSC	Office of the State Comptroller (CT)
POS	Purchase of Service
P.A.	Public Act (CT)
RFP	Request For Proposal
SEEC	State Elections Enforcement Commission (CT)
U.S.	United States

- *contractor*: a private provider organization, CT State agency, or municipality that enters into a POS contract with the Department as a result of this RFP
- *proposer*: a private provider organization, CT State agency, or municipality that has submitted a proposal to the Department in response to this RFP
- *prospective proposer*: a private provider organization, CT State agency, or municipality that may submit a proposal to the Department in response to this RFP, but has not yet done so
- *subcontractor*: an individual (other than an employee of the contractor) or business entity hired by a contractor to provide a specific health or human service as part of a POS contract with the Department as a result of this RFP

APPENDIX B**STATEMENT OF ASSURANCES**

Department of Correction

The undersigned Respondent affirms and declares that:

1) General

- a. This proposal is executed and signed with full knowledge and acceptance of the RFP CONDITIONS stated in the RFP.
- b. The Respondent will deliver services to the Department the cost proposed in the RFP and within the timeframes therein.
- c. The Respondent will seek prior approval from the Department before making any changes to the location of services.
- d. Neither the Respondent or any official of the organization nor any subcontractor the Respondent or any official of the subcontractor organization has received any notices of debarment or suspension from contracting with the State of CT or the Federal Government.
- e. Neither the Respondent or any official of the organization nor any subcontractor to the Respondent or any official of the subcontractor's organization has received any notices of debarment or suspension from contracting with other states within the United States.

Legal Name of Organization:

Authorized Signatory

Date

APPENDIX C**PROPOSAL CHECKLIST**

To assist respondents in managing proposal planning and document collation processes, this document summarizes key dates and proposal requirements for this RFP. Please note that this document does not supersede what is stated in the RFP. Please refer to the Proposal Submission Overview, Required Proposal Submission Outline, and Mandatory Provisions (Sections II, III, and IV of this RFP) for more comprehensive details. It is the responsibility of each respondent to ensure that all required documents, forms, and attachments, are submitted in a timely manner.

Key Dates

<u>Procurement Timetable</u>		
The Department reserves the right to modify these dates at its sole discretion.		
Item	Action	Date
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		

Registration with State Contracting Portal (if not already registered):

- Register at: <https://portal.ct.gov/DAS/CTSource/Registration>

Proposal Content Checklist

- ☐ **Cover Sheet**
- ☐ **Table of Contents**
- ☐ **Executive Summary:** high-level summary of proposal and cost, not to exceed two pages in length
- ☐ **Main proposal body answering all questions with relevant attachments.**
Proposers should use their discretion to determine whether certain required information is sufficiently captured in the body of their proposal or requires additional attachments for clarification. Additional attachments may include (bullets below are examples only):
 - Staffing plan with FTE status
 - Agency and program organizational chart detailing reporting structure
 - Staff resumes and applicable licensures
- ☐ **Proposed budget,** including budget narrative and cost schedules for planned subcontractors if applicable.
- ☐ **Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement**
- ☐ **Statement of Assurances**

Formatting Checklist

- ☐ Is the proposal formatted to fit 8 ½ x 11 (letter-sized) paper?
- ☐ Is the main body of the proposal within the page limit?
- ☐ Is the proposal in 12-point, Times New Roman font?
- ☐ Does the proposal format follow normal (1 inch) margins and single line spacing?
- ☐ Does the proposer's name appear in the header of each page?
- ☐ Does the proposal include page numbers in the footer?
- ☐ Are confidential labels applied to sensitive information (if applicable)?

APPENDIX D**Letter of Intent**Return to:

Name: Salina Hargrove
Address: Connecticut Department of Correction
24 Wolcott Hill Road
Wethersfield, CT 06109
Phone: 860-692-6837
Fax: 860 692-7576
Email: DOC.RFP@ct.gov

Include: LOI-2023DOC-IMSECG-RFPSH in the subject line

The organization below intends to submit a proposal in response to the above referenced RFP.

Note: This letter is a non-binding expression of interest and does not obligate the sender to submit a proposal.

Prospective Proposer:

Legal Organization Name

Telephone Number

Mailing Address

Town, State

Zip Code**Contact Person:**

Name

Title

Mailing Address

Town, State

Zip Code

Telephone Number

Fax Number

Email Address**Person Authorized to Sign Contract:**

Name

Title

Signature

Date

APPENDIX E**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION
COVER SHEET****RFP NAME:** Inmate Medical Services – ECG/EKG Services
RFP NUMBER #: 2023DOC-IMSECG-RFPSH**Organization:**

Primary Business Name

FEIN/SSN# & DUNS# & CFDA#

Business Address

Telephone Number

Town, State

Zip Code

Contact Person: *(Individual other than Authorized Official who can provide additional information about the proposal or who has immediate responsibility for the proposal)*

Name

Title

Street Address

Town, State, Zip Code

Telephone Number

Facsimile Number

E-mail Address

Authorized Official: *(Individual empowered to enter into and amend contractual instruments in the name and on behalf of the Contractor)*

Name

Title

Street Address

Town, State, Zip Code

Telephone Number

Facsimile Number

E-mail Address

SignatureTotal Amount of Proposal:
